

February 6, 2018

Mount Mercy Academy Sports Round-Up

Monsignor Martin League Hockey

The Monsignor Martin League Hockey team split its two games this week, defeating Williamsville 2-1 and falling to Clarence-Amherst-Sweet Home 1-0. In the game against Williamsville, seniors Sophie Robinson and Fiona Danahy of Buffalo both had assists on the team's first goal of the game. Sophomore Grace Harrington (West Seneca) made 23 saves. Harrington had 22 saves against Clarence-Amherst-Sweet Home. The team will return to action in mid February for the playoffs.



Varsity Basketball

The Mount Mercy Varsity Basketball team opened its week with a heartbreaking loss to Saint Mary's of Lancaster. The Magic built a 26-11 halftime lead, but were outscored 33-14 in the second half and lost 44-40. Junior Alesia Hamm (Buffalo) had the best game of her career, scoring 21 points. She also added 13 rebounds, including eight offensive rebounds and had six steals. Senior Emma Fredo (Buffalo) added eight points and seven rebounds and junior Josslynn Strang had six points and eight rebounds.

Assistant Coach Erin Ryan stated, "In the first quarter our level of play was even with St. Mary's. However, in the second quarter, we turned it up a notch, broke their press and moved the ball efficiently against their zone defenses. We only allowed St. Mary's to score 2 points in the entire second quarter. The second half, the momentum changed to favor St. Mary's of Lancaster and we fell just a little short at the end. Every single one of our players gave everything they had."

In the Frontier Tournament the Magic split two games, losing a close game in the opener and taking the consolation game. The Magic faced Hamburg in the opener and dropped a two point decision 31-29. The game was close throughout, with the score tied at 10 after one quarter and the Magic trailing by three at the half. Hamm and sophomore Xoie Ferrentino (West Seneca) led the team with eight points each. Ferrentino had two three pointers.

Mount Mercy defeated Williamsville North 41-37 in the consolation game. The Magic broke the game open with a 14 point second quarter to claim a 20-12 halftime advantage. Josslynn Strang led the offense with 13 points and sophomore point guard Tierney Ashe added 10 points in her best offensive game of the year.



Junior Varsity Basketball

The Mount Mercy JV Basketball team opened its week with a thrilling game against St. Mary's of Lancaster. Unfortunately the Magic ended up on the short end of the score, 44-40. Mount Mercy trailed by twelve points to the undefeated Saint Mary's of Lancaster team at one point in the contest but battled back to close the gap but was unable to overcome the deficit.

"We worked hard and prepared for this game, and it showed. I thought it was the best game that we played all year. It was a very physical basketball game and my team handled it very well. I thought we did a good job of moving the ball against their defense," Coach Molly Gasuik stated.

Sophomore Brittany Meredith (Cheektowaga) led a balanced offensive attack with nine points. Sophomore Lizzy Lang (Buffalo) and freshman Catherine Zak (Hamburg) each added eight points and sophomores Brigid Burke (Buffalo) and Lily Kasperek (Forestville) chipped in with six points apiece.

"There were times we could have let the basketball game slip away when we were down by 12 at one point- but this team doesn't give up. Everyone contributed and gave their all. I am so proud of my team and the way they played. Even though we did not get the win I am proud of every single person on my team. We battled in this game, and did not give up and that is a win for me," Gasuik commented.

The Magic finished the week competing in the Frontier tournament. The team lost its opening game to Hamburg, 52-35. The score was even after the first quarter, but seemed to run out of gas after that. Freshman Emily Kessler (West Seneca) led the way with 11 points. Lang added eight points and sophomore Britney Meredith added seven points. Gasuik commented that Lang had an outstanding game rebounding and boxing out.

In the consolation game of the Frontier tournament the Magic faced Williamsville North and played a triple overtime game before finally losing 42-39. Mount Mercy started the game slowly managing just one point in the first quarter but managed to close the gap to three points at the half before coming out after halftime and grabbing a 21-18 lead on Zak's three pointer with two seconds left in the quarter. At the end of regulation the score was knotted at 28. With the Magic trailing by one and just three seconds on the clock in the first overtime, Lang hit a foul shot to send the game to a second overtime. Near the end of the second overtime Burke hit both of her foul shots to force the third overtime period. Unfortunately Williamsville North hit a three point shot in the third overtime to seal the victory. Zak led the offense with ten points and Kessler and Lang each had nine points.

"On the scoreboard we lost 39-42, but I could not be more proud of my team the way they battled and did not give up. I am so proud of my girls and how they work in practice every day. The last time we played Will North we lost by twenty, and today we took them to 3 overtimes. Obviously we have improved so much since then," Gasuik stated.

Varsity Bowling

The Mount Mercy Bowling team continued its successful season winning both of its matches 4-0. The team once again defeated the blind (when bowling against the Blind, the team must beat average scores of 140) and Cardinal O'Hara.

Against the Blind, junior Allison Mazurkiewicz (Blasdell) led the way with a three game set of 479 (176, 159, 144). Freshman Olivia Coleman (Lackawanna) had a strong three game set, rolling a 183, 149 and 138. Junior Samantha Batchev (Lackawanna) totaled a 416 with games of 146, 143 and 130.

Mazurkiewicz continued her fine bowling against O'Hara, with games of 199, 166 and 149 (514). Coleman continued to improve, rolling a 498 with games of 178, 168 and 152. Batchev had games of 145, 145 and 136.

With two matches left before the All-Catholic Match, the team now has a record of 58.5-17.5.

Mount Mercy Academy

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